



public works

Department:
Public Works
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Issued by Chief Directorate: Communications

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MEDIA STATEMENT

PUBLIC WORKS CLARIFIES RENOVATION TO MINISTERIAL HOUSES

The Department of Public Works would like to clarify that the R675 911. 00 budget set aside for renovations of ministerial houses, was for work to be done on three houses, not just for the upgrade of the braai area in one house, as recently reported in the media.

The houses were bought in the 2007/8 financial year without braai facilities and were scheduled to be upgraded. The R675 911 was the budget set aside and not the money used for the installation of the braai facilities. The final amount used for the three houses was R488 000, following an open tender process.

During the 2016 budget vote speech, the department outlined plans for government to save on leasing after studies found that in areas like Tshwane, government paid above market rate. These included acquiring more properties for its stock portfolio which results in long-term saving for the department and government as a whole. The acquisition of the six houses seeks to respond to the DPW's long term plan of owning properties compared to leasing them.

These six ministerial houses belong to the state and have not been procured for specific ministers. When the term of a minister who will be occupying them comes to an end, the house will be allocated to a new minister.

The DPW's mandate is to provide, manage and maintain accommodation (both residential and functional) to the President and Deputy President, Ministers and Deputy Ministers, Chief Justice and Deputy Chief Justice, Presiding Officers of the

National Assembly and the NCOP, Members of Parliament, Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of National House of Traditional Leaders, Eminent Persons or Individuals from Continental Bodies or Structures, Accounting Officers, Sessional Officials and Members' support staff.

In making sure that the assets of the state are well maintained and managed, the DPW has an annual budget set maintenance and renovations. This budget is used for planned and unplanned maintenance.

ENDS

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